

Roseburg District Resource Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes of Monday, **June 30, 2003**
Roseburg District Office
777 NW Garden Valley Blvd., Roseburg, Oregon

Committee Members Present:

Bob Kinyon - Environmental Org., Chair
Donald Ollivant - Environmental Org.
Shirley Cairns - Public at Large
Leonard Schussel – Teacher
Ronald Breyne - School Official
Janice Green - Dispersed Recreation
Mike Estes - Developed Recreation
Gary Schroeder - Commercial Timber Industry, Vice Chair
MaryJane Snocker - Environmental Org.
Mike Piehl - Commercial Recreation
Judith Bacon - Elected Official

Alternates Present:

Committee Members Absent:

David Lorenz
William Burnett – School Official
Tom Van Epps - Energy & Mineral Development
Jeannie Weakly - Organized Labor

Alternates Absent:

John Hope
David Elder
Sam Huff

Others Present:

Cary Osterhaus – District Manager, DFO
Jake Winn - Project Manager
Dwight Fielder - South River Area Manager
Jay Carlson - Swiftwater Area Manager
Elynn Burkett - Public Affairs Officer
Zane Cornett - Facilitator

Kevin Carson – South River Silviculturist
Pete Howe – Swiftwater Supr Civil Eng. Tech
Darrel Green – South River Civil Eng. Tech
Helmut Kreidler – South River Lead Engineer
Elaine Twigg Cornett - Facilitator

WELCOME:

Chairman, Bob Kinyon, called the RAC meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was met.

4Cs AWARD:

Cary Osterhaus introduced Chuck Wassinger, Associate State Director. Mr. Wassinger presented the "4Cs Award" to the Advisory Council in recognition of work they have accomplished. Award was signed by Director, Gale Norton and State Director, Elaine Marquis-Brong.

REVIEW OF DECISION PROCESS:

Cornett said the decision process would be: 1) re-prioritization after presentations, 2) soliciting recommendations to make decisions.

PRESENTATIONS:

- 1) Nancy Geyer of Umpqua Basin Water Council showed the video "*Water Quality Commercials*" highlighting ways to improve public awareness of water quality problems.
- 2) Tom Hatfield & Jim Brick of Fish & Wildlife discussed the Umpqua Basin *Rock Creek Fishway* with a review of statistics on steelhead, coho, etc., and the problems with ladder exit for fish. Would like to proceed with timeline and goals (a sorting facility, and monitor system). Obtaining \$140,000 for engineers would get this started, with 2nd & 3rd years depending on engineers' outcome.

- 3) Jay Carlson, Swiftwater Field Manager, discussed *Recreation Site Restoration* covering a series of projects on District, with 5 recreation sites in the Swiftwater Resource Area. Some would need soil remediation and site restoration. Cavitt Creek has a problem with older trees that have suffered from die-off. BLM will drop some trees. The focus being to reestablish tree growth.
- 4) Kevin Carson, South River Silviculturist, provided a handout on *Forest Health Improvement*. His talk covered "dense stands" (that were not a problem previously because they were thinned), fuel reduction and ? Test Project. Dollars are needed just to do yarding and treatment to the stand.
- 5) Walt Gayner, of Douglas Soil & Water Conservation District, covered *Update on Fish Passage Inventory (UBFAT)*, with information on last year's inventory, project work, process problems, & corrections. Working with conflicting interests, inaccuracies, & data gaps. Project involves Forest Service, NOA fisheries, ODFW and USF&W. Chair, also on UBFAT, said that, if funded, they will have a much more professional way to support this project.
- 6) Walt Gayner covered *Gorse Control* projects. DFPA and Oregon Dept of Agriculture have provided outstanding sources by monitoring; have at this time an opportunity to control its spread; sensitive to practical methods (ex: handpulling); list of approximately 40 sites; no successful biological controls.
- 7) Lenny Schussel (speaking for Nancy Southerland who was unable to be present) covered *Youth Environmental Studies*. A way to use programs at Safari for intervention into Natural Resource field to divert young people from further problems and an opportunity to turn things around.

QUESTIONS FOR BLM STAFF ON PROJECTS:

Winn gave each person a Project Ranking Sheet to check their priority rankings.

- Breyne - readiness of *Buckfork Creek Culv Replcmt*? Darrel Green said construction set for '04.
- Schussel - explanation of 1) how to accelerate time in Late Seral trees? and 2) explain "old growth". Discussion followed.
- Kinyon - need input from BLM before list is modified. Asked for input on project and land ownership above fish hatchery. Carlson said they were continuing to do culvert and road work on Rock Creek.
- Ollivant - *Holmes Creek Culvert Replacement #2* - Improve amount of fish in stream if culvert replaced? Darrel Green said yes and that it is occupied by resident fish. Winn said project is driven by the fact that the aging culvert could fail at any time. Fish passage is also a problem.

11:15 a.m.

SUBMISSION OF EDITED PRIORITIES:

Cornett asked group to turn in edited priorities. #1 will represent most important project.

(break for:)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

11:30 a.m. Chair asked for public participation. None. Closed.

Mr. Wassinger left at 11:30. Chair adjourned meeting until 12:45.

REVIEW AND DISCUSSION OF PRIORITIES:

Cornett passed out the edited sheets on prioritization projects & briefed group on changes. He solicited motions. Schussel questioned where the *Distaff Thistle Project* was on the list? Cornett inserted the *Distaff Thistle Project* just above *Nickerson Creek Rd Imprvmt*. 47 points in terms of ranking, cost of \$5,000.

Bacon "motion to do Fish Passage Inventory project." Ollivant "seconded". Chair – no objections. **"Approved".**

Ollivant "motion to do Portuguese Broom project." Cairns "seconded". Chair – no objections. **"Approved".**

Schroeder "motion to look at ranking down to \$2.2 million down thru Fire Weather Station at \$2,057". Bacon "seconded". Discussion: other projects had equal support as far as people voting; not unanimous vote; exclude projects from bulk. **Schroeder withdrew motion.** Discussion: vote by single project; how to vote; individual preferences; diversity of projects.

Ollivant "motion to take projects one at a time". Cairns "seconded". Chair asked for objections? After discussion Ollivant withdrew motion.

Schroeder "motion to take time to go down list with 5 minutes maximum for each person and re-score again by order listed on sheet". Kinyon "seconded". Discussion: see grouping by number of responses; by those group thought were important.

Schroeder "motion restated: go in order they are shown on new list. Go through each project – limit 5 minutes maximum for discussion. Re-evaluate score of rankings. "

PRIORITIES DISCUSSION cont:

Smith River Strm Hab Imprvmt - many support project.

Rock Cr Fish Passage – Darrel Green said it could be 2nd yr project.

Letitia Cr Culv – Schussel said the collapsed bridge needs work done eventually.

Buckfork Cr Culv Replcmt – Cairns agrees with BLM as top priority. Chair - it allows fish to get higher in system.

Holmes Cr Culv Replcmt #2 – Breyne - it didn't score high compared to the amount of \$ put in.

Snocker said the culvert refunded last year is committed to refund this year.

Bacon - her rankings based on emphasis of educational benefits and improving fish passage.

Ollivant said discussion covered different purposes of fish passages. Needs primary reason for needing culvert replacement and did not rank high.

Recreation Site Restoration – Schroeder said the dollars shown – remember to approve for 1yr or 2 yrs.

Schussel said the public will see effort on diversity for public impact.

Breyne - 2nd year work starts; 1/3 of work could go to youth groups. Commit only some of \$10,000 and set aside rest for next year.

Osterhaus spoke with County Commissioner, Doug Robertson, and he is supportive and optimistic on future spending. Folks can see Winn for documents reauthorizing on ??

Watershed Council Tech Sup – no comment.

Northwest Youth Corps – Breyne questioned the 70-kid weeks & which kids they utilize. Would like to see portion shifted to more Douglas County kids. Extensive hands-on-training takes longer. Impact huge if a life is turned around. He sees promises year after year to Douglas County.

Kinyon – why 2 different programs (the Northwest Youth Corps & Oregon Youth Cons Corps)?

Winn said he knows the NYC Coordinator and that he would appreciate feedback. **Green "motion that Winn could summarize today's conversation, and convey message to NYC Coordinator". Schroeder "seconded". Schussel "motion to table to provide time to write a statement". No discussion. Chair "motion to approve".**

Winn – 2 parts: 1) job training; 2) work on-the-ground. Working on summer season with new procedures.

Carlson – very pleased with quality, experimental weed project, fencing material, trial reconstruction.

Outstanding work. Green asked Winn for copy of the Law. Twigg Cornett will get her that Law. Winn said the Federal law states that it is illegal territory to set up a number/percentage.

Winn read portion of message to NYC: "GOAL OF RAC IS TO HAVE HIGHER PORTION OF DOUGLAS COUNTY PARTICIPANTS."

Oregon Youth Cons Corps - no comment.

Weaver Cr Culv Replcmt #2 – Cairns – not a high priority for BLM. Did not rank because of that issue.

Gorse Control – no comment.

Little Muley Cr Culv Replcmt – no comment.

Cox Cr Culv Replcmt – Cairns – not ranking because it was said that it would need to be replaced within the next 5 yrs.

Science Zone – no comment.

Restoration Proj Dev – Cairns – ranked very high because of something to build on. Ollivant – ranking low. Schroeder – overall came out well.

No comment on the following: Tom Folley Strm Hab Imprvmt, Taylor Cr Culv Replcmt, Martin Cr Strm Hab Imprvmt, Upper Umpqua For Hab Imprvmt, Distaff Thistle Project, Nickerson Creek Road Imprvmt.

Fire Weather Station – Schussel – Anything we can do to prevent fires this year would help.

Grizzley Creek Culv Replcmt – no comment.

Law Enforcement Res Protect – Estes – very important for resource protection, example: if meth sludge dumped in creek nothing can be done.

Osterhaus pointed out another aspect. Next year Forest Service has outlawed alcohol in the National dunes area. Impact will be high number of these folks looking for another area – probably on BLM.

Schussel asked if it was within bounds of Act to spend dollars on County Law Enforcement. Osterhaus – Yes – we can. L E falls outside realm of everything.

Riparian Vegetation Study – Osterhaus – cautioned to be very aware that same project had been awarded to an individual and was never completed. An area of non-compliance. Probably not going to happen.

Elk Creek Hdwtr Culv Replcmt – no comment.

Ward Creek Culv Replcmt – no comment.

Forest Health Imprvmt – Piehl – 20 out of 50 acres are Riparian. He interprets Legislature is for restoration so thinning Osterhaus – good portion is fuel reduction. Pilot program.

Piehl – because it's matrix – substantial not of logging going on? Osterhaus – minimal value.

No comment on the following: Alder Crk Child's For Acc, Rice Cr Road Imprvmt, Water Quality

Commercials, Slide Cr Rip Hab Imprvmt.

Shively Creek For Hab Imprvmt – Cairns – good project.

Youth Environ Studies Proj – no comment.

Pilot Watershed Monitoring Club – Schussel - good proposal to collect more information for better decision-making. Monitoring is a good step to increase public awareness. Osterhaus – someone has to analyze information, just collecting does not benefit.

Complete re-ranking 1 through 18 starting at Smith River Strm Hab Imprvmt today then adjourn until July 14th. (Does not include Fish Passage & Portuguese Broom.) Cairns – absentees may vote also. Osterhaus – this group should be here on the 14th. Chair – after re-ranking – give to Cornett and Twigg Cornett then adjourn.

Osterhaus – re-ranking is just to see how numbers come out.

Winn – read his note to NYC Representative. Asked group for approval. Objections? Ollivant – change "to see" to ask "would strongly support"?

Chair asked for any other business? None.

Chair adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

Next meeting will be held July 14th, 2003.

Lynn Koens